Urban strategy 2.0
“The perspectives of Cologne 2030+”
Summary
Preface

This summary compactly summarizes the framework of goals, the target maps and the recommended actions of the urban strategy "The perspectives of Cologne 2030+".

The urban strategy "The perspectives of Cologne 2030+" was amended by the Cologne city council on 14th December 2021. The Council has assigned the municipal administration to revise Goal 5.4 on climate protection and recommended action 1 "climate-friendly living" and to transfer them into an "urban strategy 2.0". The summary version 2.0 includes these selective adjustments.

You can find the extended version on our website www.stadt-koeln.de/koelnperspektiven2030 in the download section.

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Urban strategy – Structure and development

The urban strategy “The perspectives of Cologne 2030+” is the compass for a future-oriented, strategic and sustainable urban development. It addresses the future needs of Cologne as a growing metropolis and identifies the core actions required for its further urban development. At the same time, it also recommends where and how politicians, administrators and urban society can and should collaborate in the coming years with the aim of enhancing the habitability of the city of Cologne.

In 2017, the city council assigned the municipal administration with the drafting of an urban strategy. For this purpose, a working committee (ARGE) consisting of three offices (Urbanista, ASTOC and Bureau for regional development) was formed, and this committee developed “The perspectives of Cologne 2030+” by summer 2020 in an integrated process.

“Cologne style”: viewing the city from two perspectives

The urban strategy considers and envisages the urban development of Cologne from two perspectives, which, in combination, provide an “all-round view” as the integral basis for the development of Cologne in the coming years:

The “360-degree perspective” concerns all urban development actions relevant for Cologne. Based on a comprehensive urban analysis of internal administrative and thematic teams as well as future challenges that the city of Cologne could encounter against the background of global trends and local issues (SDGs, Leipzig Charta, future trends), core issues for the future development of Cologne were compiled and moulded in the framework of goals of “The perspectives of Cologne 2030+”. The city describes the direction of its development in the coming years in the form of five principles.

“Urban planning perspective” is based on the spatial analysis of the city which is carried out in parallel with the framework of goals. It not only provides important instructions for the topics /contents relevant to the framework of goals, but also depicts the manner in which Cologne’s urban structure must be geographically developed further with the intention of achieving the goals described in the 360-degree perspective.

Ten recommended actions are provided at the intersection of the two perspectives, which specify the most important task areas as far as future urban development is concerned, and depict the manner in which Cologne will achieve its goals.

Result of a widely supported standardisation process

“The perspectives of Cologne 2030+” are based on a large number of fundamental principles and preparatory elements. They are based on the decisions of the council regarding “strategic urban development”, “Model 2020”, “sustainable urban development” as well as “expanding city” and they develop these concepts further. The challenges and aspirations for a sustainable and future-oriented urban development emerge from the linking of “Sustainable Development Goals” (SDG) of United Nations (UN), “Leipzig Charta on Sustainable European Cities” and the trends of future urban development of the BBSR-project “Reflection on the city of tomorrow” and are applied to Cologne in particular.

The urban strategy is, to a large extent, a product of intensive working procedures of the municipal administration under the direction of the office for urban development and statistics, along with the participation of civil society as well as external experts.
With the help of a framework of goals, the city can orientate itself to a strategic framework that will guide its future action. The framework of goals consists of five principles and 27 goals. The individual goals have various aspects (“hashtags”), which are specified on the subsequent pages.

**Framework of goals**

With the help of a framework of goals, the city can orientate itself to a strategic framework that will guide its future action. The framework of goals consists of five principles and 27 goals. The individual goals have various aspects (“hashtags”), which are specified on the subsequent pages.

**Principle 1**
The districts of Cologne are compact and congenial.

Goal 1.1 Cologne proactively monitors its development along with effective mobility options and strong centres.

Goal 1.2 Cologne uses the limited resource “space” carefully.

Goal 1.3 Cologne safeguards and develops its small city parts (Veedel) into community centres.

Goal 1.4 Cologne has attractive parks, places, roads and safe open spaces.

Goal 1.5 Cologne develops its infrastructure and public services to fulfil its requirements.

**Principle 2**
Cologne creates the conditions required for a dynamic and sustainable economy as well as for diverse work environments.

Goal 2.1 Cologne reinforces its wide economic diversity.

Goal 2.2 Cologne expands its position as a leading scientific city.

Goal 2.3 Cologne develops commercial and industrial sites with clear content profiles.

Goal 2.4 Cologne creates spaces and structures for cultural and creative industries.

Goal 2.5 Cologne optimises use of space in industrial and commercial areas and enhances their accessibility.

Goal 2.6 Cologne integrates employable people permanently in the first employment market.

**Principle 3**
Cologne ensures education, equal opportunities and participation.

Goal 3.1 Cologne encourages diversity in its districts.

Goal 3.2 Cologne offers affordable housing and a variety of living arrangements.

Goal 3.3 Cologne supports an inclusive community proactively.

Goal 3.4 Cologne strives to become a children, youth and family-friendly city.

Goal 3.5 Cologne promotes access to education and qualification as a key to participation.

Goal 3.6 Cologne supports civic engagement and relies on comprehensive citizen participation in urban development.

**Principle 4**
Cologne reinforces its role as a well-connected metropolis.

Goal 4.1 Cologne innovatively enhances its mobility offers in collaboration with the region while simultaneously ensuring environment-friendliness, and strengthens its local public transport system.

Goal 4.2 Cologne creates more space for pedestrians and cyclists.

Goal 4.3 Cologne strengthens its network of green and open spaces, and develops it further in the region.

Goal 4.4 Cologne reinforces its role as a pioneer of digitalisation.

Goal 4.5 Cologne promotes regional as well as international cooperation.

**Principle 5**
Cologne provides healthy living conditions as it grows in a climate-friendly and environment-friendly way.

Goal 5.1 Cologne promotes activity and sport.

Goal 5.2 Cologne provides access to healthcare, health promotion and prevention in all circumstances.

Goal 5.3 Cologne pursues a policy for a consequent adaptation to climate change.

Goal 5.4 Cologne proactively ensures climate protection and will become climate neutral in 2035.

Goal 5.5 Cologne promotes regional supply chains and sustainable material cycles.
The districts of Cologne are compact and congenial.

The small city parts (Veedel) of Cologne constitute the everyday living environment of its citizens. It is here that we experience the ecological, social, economic and cultural qualities of the city.

Diverse use and polycentricity are the main prerequisites for these qualities in the urban space. Compact structures with good infrastructure provision on the site ensure easy accessibility and traffic reduction while simultaneously requiring less space. The level of density appropriate for such compact structures depends upon the local conditions.

Cologne’s qualities that include its prevalent urban structure and attractive, open spaces must be enhanced in the future – against the background of the growth of the city and further challenges – so that the city continues to be an attractive place to live and to work in.

Goals such as city-compatible and efficient mobility, efficient space management and sustainable district development must be followed for a city-specific implementation of these core qualities. At the same time, the development of attractive open spaces and a need-based development of the infrastructure must be taken into consideration.

Goal 1.1 Cologne proactively monitors its development along with effective mobility options and strong centres.
# reinforce a parallel development of residential areas and eco-mobility
# increase attractiveness by applying eco-mobility
# boost urban districts with residential, work-related and recreational uses
# strengthen existing centers
# experiment with new forms of use diversity and use density

Goal 1.2 Cologne uses the limited resource “space” carefully.
# exploit options for internal development
# utilise spaces multiple times (multicoding)
# avail of urban renovation as an opportunity to create quality density
# establish land management
# foster sustainable property and land policies
# define criteria for “good density” through dialogue

Goal 1.3 Cologne safeguards and develops its small city parts (Veedel) into community centres.
# intensify district development
# ensure and further develop the cultural diversity and meeting venues in the small city parts (Veedel)
# develop district proportions and densities that enable a provision of social and cultural offerings (especially in the outer city)
# enhance competencies and identifications in and with the districts

Goal 1.4 Cologne has attractive parks, places, roads and safe open spaces.
# further qualify the public space as a carrier of urban life and urban quality
# enhance the road space as public space with high amenity value
# organise and reduce stationary traffic in a city-friendly way
# create or qualify areas in the districts as meeting venues
# ensure greenery in the districts
# safeguard and improve security, livelihood and cleanliness in the districts

Goal 1.5 Cologne develops its infrastructure and public services to fulfil its requirements.
# simplify access to public services
# improve connectivity/information of existing offerings
# improve the quality of healthcare and social services at all sites
Principle 2

Cologne creates the conditions required for a dynamic and sustainable economy as well as for diverse work environments.

Cologne is one of the most important business locations of Germany, and it is the centre of a regional, diversified and well-connected industrial structure. Its work environment and production environments are simultaneously undergoing continuous change: digitalisation, industry 4.0, start-up culture, urban landscape and transition to a knowledge-based society are just few of the several trends being already addressed by the city, and this will continue in the future as well. As a dynamic and sustainable economy, it is important to facilitate the collaboration of multiple industries and continuously re-evaluate the balance between ecological, social and economic interests.

Content-related profiles must be developed and refined for the industrial and commercial locations, and all stakeholders must be able to access support as needed. Work environment, working conditions and workplace accessibility also play a significant role in this context, as the aim is to further enhance the attractiveness of Cologne for potential employees.

Cologne's quality of being a significant scientific city, which contributes to the diversified profile of the city, must be reinforced further. An investment in universities and research institutes is an investment in Cologne's future in many ways. It bolsters the youth of the city aged between 18 and 30 years, and this in turn, ensures a lively atmosphere in the city and healthy growth in the long term.

The entire city of Cologne reaps the benefits of success in settling innovative and creative talents permanently in the city. For this to happen, new options and spaces must be provided, not only for start-ups and founders, but also for other creative and cultural parties involved. The focus must now lie on promoting innovations and reacting flexibly to novel ideas.

Goal 2.1 Cologne reinforces its wide economic diversity.
- cultivate industrial diversity as Cologne's USP
- expedite the internationalisation and innovation of the economic centre
- promote urban production
- safeguard trade locations and support them during transition
- portray Cologne as a place for start-ups and founders
- promote regional and urban agricultural production

Goal 2.2 Cologne expands its position as a leading scientific city.
- reinforce scientific and technology transfer
- create attractive framework conditions for students and scientists
- create visibility for science in the city
- foster research facilities as catalysts for the future

Goal 2.3 Cologne develops commercial and industrial sites with clear content profiles.
- outline addresses for international companies
- standardise industrial and trade areas, and strengthen them according to the requirements of the parties involved including content profiling
- preserve the attractiveness of the work environment and working conditions
- scale up spaces and structures for start-ups

Goal 2.4 Cologne creates spaces and structures for cultural and creative industries.
- enhance Cologne's position as an art and cultural metropolis
- promote and mediate interim uses
- establish creative clusters
- promote performing arts, subculture and non-profit organisations

Goal 2.5 Cologne optimises use of space in industrial and commercial areas and enhances their accessibility.
- densify and stack production vertically
- improve accessibility with the local public transport system
- organise logistics services for trade and industry in an innovative and city-friendly manner

Goal 2.6 Cologne integrates employable people permanently in the first employment market.
- secure skilled employees by means of timely educational and guidance measures
- enable opportunities for advanced education and professional prospects
- provide long-term counselling services and assistance for the working population and companies
- ensure job openings for potential employees with various criteria
- reduce access barriers to trainee positions
Principle 3

Cologne ensures education, equal opportunities and participation.

Enabling societal participation of every individual to their full potential and the integration of every individual in society is necessary for the long-term sustainable development of Cologne. Only then can we speak of social inclusion and equality as well as generation equality.

Principle 3.1 Cologne encourages diversity in its districts.
- compartmentalised blending of various residential options
- blend residential environments in buildings and neighbourhoods
- preserve cultural diversity

Principle 3.2 Cologne offers affordable housing and a variety of living arrangements.
- increase funded and affordable residential construction
- foster urban construction companies and cooperatives
- mobilise areas for residential construction, and provide access to the property and real estate market for a widely diversified field of involved parties
- promote new residential forms (inter-generational residences, barrier-free and flexible residences)
- enable a reduction in living space consumption per person (more common areas)
- promote target group-specific residential facilities (for students, seniors, etc.)
- exploit the entire residential space potential fully, and prevent misappropriation of spaces

Goal 3.3 Cologne supports an inclusive community proactively.
- bear in mind an inclusive and diverse society in all spheres of public action
- promote the integration of immigrants
- reinforce and provide access to (inter)cultural and social facilities
- create points of contact and counselling centres for various population groups in the small city parts (Veedel)
- ensure mobility opportunities for everyone
- maintain and ensure openness and tolerance (including security in the public sphere)
- provide residential space for the disabled
- continue to develop offers and scope for participation of seniors

Goal 3.4 Cologne strives to become a children, youth and family-friendly city.
- promote children’s rights in urban society and administrative actions
- tackle the consequences of child poverty
- ensure that there are adequate childcare facilities in the districts
- extend support to single parents
- step up provisions in the fields of play, movement and activities for children and the youth
- promote youth engagement and open spaces

Goal 3.5 Cologne promotes access to education and qualification as a key to participation.
- continue to develop educational facilities and access for all circumstances
- expand and renovate the educational infrastructure
- integrate new requirements (e.g. climate change, digitalisation, etc.) in the field of education
- eliminate capacity bottlenecks in the schooling and childcare system
- broaden need-based advanced educational facilities for adults
- reinforce integrative offerings in the areas of education and qualification

Goal 3.6 Cologne supports civic engagement and relies on comprehensive citizen participation in urban development.
- scale up participation offers
- implement standards for good participation
- promote mutual learning between participants (raise awareness)
- promote voluntary work as well as engagement and initiative
- establish the city as a professional service provider, an estimated partner and an attractive employer

To ensure that Cologne moves forward positively in this regard, the already existing structural and cultural diversity of the small city parts (Veedel) of Cologne must be scaled up, for example, by providing affordable homes and a variety of living arrangements, which allow barrier-free accessibility and space for the community. The provision and easy accessibility of cultural and social educational facilities in accordance with the requirements – particularly with regard to creating a children, youth and family-friendly city – ensures equal opportunities and together with the possibility of collective design, it simultaneously forms the foundation of a fair, open and tolerant Cologne.
Principle 4

Cologne reinforces its role as a well-connected metropolis.

Cologne, as a metropolis, must depend on stable interconnections to ensure resilient development that will be able to stand up to future challenges and will be in sync with the rights of the residents. In this context, population growth, an increasing multilocality and a modified provision of goods lead to increased and diverse traffic flows as well as mobility requirements in the city, which in turn, need environment-friendly, space-saving and smart solutions. Cologne focuses specifically on eco-mobility solutions with regard to improving the everyday mobility of Cologne residents. The local public transport system is being developed further and its various facilities are being interlinked to serve better. Cyclists and pedestrians are encouraged and innovative and novel solutions, such as e.g., sharing i.e. shared means of transport with regard to individual transport or modern logistic infrastructure, are being taken into consideration. Besides the augmentation of sustainable mobility trends, digitalisation also brings with it new, more efficient and environment-friendly traffic solutions.

Cologne boosts its green, open spaces together with the region, in order to tackle climate change, ensure the conservation of species (animals and plants), and simultaneously increase the quality of life of its residents. A provision of attractive public spaces in residential areas plays an increasingly significant role and is thus an important part of public services.

Cologne is also a digitalisation pioneer, and continues to expand its offerings. The use of data facilitates transformation into a “smart city”, a city that is fit for the future.

As a metropolis that has versatile connections, Cologne enhances its international networks and city partnerships, and promotes professional exchanges. Similarly, regional cooperation is harnessed to resolve common, cross-border problems and to promote sustainable development.

Goal 4.1  Cologne innovatively enhances its mobility offers in collaboration with the region while simultaneously ensuring environment-friendliness, and strengthens its local public transport system.

- improve connections between means of transports
- create cross-connections and close gaps in the networks
- eliminate capacity bottlenecks sustainably
- expand shared mobility options (especially in the outer parts of the city)
- develop waterborne mobility facilities
- quattromodal application and development of logistics excellence (optimum transport and location use)
- spearhead Cologne towards becoming a pioneer for a city-friendly urban logistics
- establish Cologne as an experimentation region for innovative and futuristic mobility systems

Goal 4.2  Cologne creates more space for pedestrians and cyclists.

- expand the cycle network (close network gaps, for example, across the Rhine)
- create regional cycle expressways
- restructure road spaces and optimise them for pedestrian and cycle traffic
- explore shared space offers and traffic-free areas in the districts
- broaden low-speed areas
- reinforce pedestrian infrastructure

Goal 4.3  Cologne strengthens its network of green and open spaces, and develops it further in the region.

- accomplish and qualify green structures (especially on the right bank of the Rhine)
- enhance and reinforce the open space network
- promote species conservation and diversity in the regional open space network
- create new “green stepping stones” between large, open space areas
- establish residential area borders with respect to the environmental landscape
- reinforce vertical greenery

Goal 4.4  Cologne reinforces its role as a pioneer of digitalisation.

- drive forward digital management of urban systems and infrastructures
- link mobility and digitalisation
- Cologne reinforces its mobile and digital infrastructure and expands its broadband infrastructure
- make Cologne a pioneer for digital facilities with regard to urban administration
- expand open data provisions
- reinforce digital art offers
- create platforms for urban data

Goal 4.5  Cologne promotes regional as well as international cooperation.

- introduce a cooperation framework for regional growth and sustainable transport development
- establish intercommunal offers with neighbouring communities
- expand network with national and international partners
Principle 5
Cologne provides healthy living conditions as it grows in a climate-friendly and environment-friendly way.

Cologne, similar to all other cities, is affected by climate change. This leads to the requirement of carrying out several actions to ensure a sustainable development of the city. A reduction in emissions to protect the climate, is indeed the topmost priority for Cologne’s urban development department, however, measures must also be taken to adapt to the consequences of climate change which are already evident in the form of heat waves or extreme weather conditions. This is a huge challenge, but it is also an opportunity to maintain and further enhance the quality of life in Cologne by way of the measures to be taken.

The municipalities and small city parts (Veedel) play a crucial role here; while the quality of life of the residents must be retained, challenges must also be weighed against each other. This necessitates a response from the urban infrastructure, urban planning and basic use of space in the city: existing buildings, mobility and power supply must be redeveloped such that they are more climate-friendly in the future.

The city of Cologne aspires to boost healthy living conditions and fortify the building blocks of the “active city”. That is why Cologne promotes health care with a holistic approach and steps up not only its sport and exercise activities, but also the provision of spaces for sport and exercise.

Goal 5.1 Cologne promotes activity and sport.
- further develop Cologne as a sports city
- establish and utilise sport facilities and open spaces multiple times as and when possible
- ensure access to urban and regional recreational areas
- ensure the provision of sports, health and care facilities in all the districts
- promote sports, movement and activities for children and the youth

Goal 5.2 Cologne provides access to healthcare, health promotion and prevention in all circumstances.
- portray Cologne as a health-promoting city
- improve air quality
- improve the quality of health-related and social care at all locations
- broaden activities and facilities related to preventive healthcare
- reinforce senior care and senior living as an integrated part of district development
- promote low-threshold offerings for people with special difficulties with or without linkage to the regulatory system
- promote further development of the health region

Goal 5.3 Cologne pursues a policy for a consequent adaptation to climate change.
- take measures to avoid creation of heat islands, and cooling of the districts
- expand retention areas at water bodies

Goal 5.4 Cologne proactively ensures climate protection and will become climate neutral in 2035.
- Achieving net-zero carbon emissions in the built environment
- Achieving net-zero carbon emissions in energy supply
- Supporting the road to net-zero carbon emissions of the local economy
- Achieving net-zero carbon emissions mobility and logistics
- Promoting sustainable lifestyles and supporting climate change education
- Supporting municipal and civil-society transformation to net-zero carbon emissions

Goal 5.5 Cologne promotes regional supply chains and sustainable material cycles.
- create networks of production cycles, promote circular economy in the districts
- augment regional production and marketing chains
- reinforce urban recycling offers
- make waste prevention attractive
- promote waste separation and local recycling
Urban planning perspectives

Target maps

Target maps formulate concrete spatial measures and recommendations for the development of Cologne in the planning horizon 2030 and beyond. But they also reveal conflicts by assigning various tasks to specific locations in the different maps. Thus target maps, with their strategic recommendations, can be understood as specific targets, work cards and discussion principles. The city of Cologne and its partners must apply these maps as guiding principles and coordination tools for planning their next steps.

The five target maps illustrate the fundamental principles relevant for the respective topic. These are overlaid with spatial and strategic recommendations, resulting in five topic-oriented target images for Cologne and – if possible – for the region.

The target maps focus primarily on the following strategic recommendations:

**Target map Living**
- Realisation of diverse, lively and well-connected neighbourhoods
- Appropriate urban densities, typologies and uses
- Integrated development of residential areas and the local public transport system
- Re-densification of existing structures
- Development and profiling of functional and urban space qualities along Cologne’s “future axes” and “urban axes”
- Enhancement of public spaces on roads, crossings and Rhine bridges
- Long-term transformation of road spaces for the development of new urban spaces

**Target map Economy**
- Profiling and development of future locations
- Qualification and re-densification of industrial areas
- Further development of commercial and service locations
- Profiling, re-densification and targeted expansion of commercial areas
- Transformation of commercial areas into innovative and cosmopolitan districts with diverse core uses

**Target map Mobility**
- Expansion of the local public transport system, cycle traffic and connection points of all means of transport
- Expansion of the city’s local public transport system
- Regio-Hubs, connection points and mobile stations
- Expansion and ring closure of the S-Bahn system
- Use of the Rhine as mobility space
- Reinforcement of the cycle network
- Replanning of the roadways

**Target map Society, culture and education**
- Reinforcement of the infrastructure for creating equal opportunities and participation
- Reinforcement and development of social, cultural and educational facilities in existing and future residential areas
- Expansion and reinforcement of health, science and research clusters
- Care and maintenance of existing socio-cultural locations as well as locations of the creative industries
- Renovation and expansion of educational and social infrastructure
- Social spaces in accordance with the programme "Lebenswerte Veedel – Bürger- und Sozialraumorientierung in Köln" (small city parts (Veedel) which are congenial – orientation on residential and social spaces in Cologne)
- Expansion, renovation, reinforcement of existing and new centres and public spaces
- Structural, functional and infrastructural upgrading of large residential areas and their surroundings
- Social conservation statutes apply

**Target map Green system and climate**
- Safeguarding and qualification of green systems and preparedness for climate change
- Further development of the green belt and the green system
- Green connections towards the inside and the outside
- Integration of the green infrastructure and the development of the residential areas
- Safeguarding and multi-coding of the forest and landscape areas of the city and protection of the biodiversity
- Implementation of measures for climate adaptation in the city
- Qualification of the banks of the Rhine and flood protection
- Reduction of noise and harmful emissions
Living: Realisation of diverse, lively and well-connected districts

**PRINCIPLES**

Urban areas
- diverse use: residential/service/trade
- commercial/industry
- service centres in accordance with the retail trade and centre concept
- green system
- water areas

Roadways and railways
- regional transport/S-Bahn
- city railway
- expansion or planning of the city railway
- expansion and planning of the regional transport (S-Bahn und RB)
- setting up new stations
- stations for long-distance traffic
- highway

Development areas
- potential for residential construction including diverse use
- reserved areas according to the regional plan (general residential area)
- optional spaces according to the regional plan revision (general residential area)

**STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

- recommendation of highest density for ratio of built-up to residential area higher than 1.5
- recommendation of highest density for ratio of built-up to residential area higher than 1.2
- recommendation of moderate density for ratio of built-up to residential area higher than 0.8
- search spaces exploitation of the potential for densification and development of local roads
- development of residential areas aligned to the public transport connection system and the development of centres
- search spaces re-densification and development of diverse structures
- future areas: development and profiling of superior functions, urban space and urban development qualities
- urban areas: safeguarding and further development of urban and local uses in the entire city
- upgrading urban space and urban development qualities upgrading public spaces on roads, crossings and Rhine bridges
- long-term transformation of the road space for the development of new urban spaces.
Economy: Profiling and development of sustainable locations

PRINCIPLES

Urban spaces
- residential areas in the neighbourhoods
- industrial area
- commercial area
- larger office locations
- service centres in accordance with retail and centre concept
- green system
- water bodies

Research and science
- university locations
- institutes and major research institutes
- other research institutes

Logistics and trade fair
- goods port, cargo terminal
- port
- airport
- trade fair

Development areas
- potential area for commercial and industry (commercial area provision concept)
- reserved area according to the regional plan (commercial and industrial settlement area)
- optional areas according to the regional plan revision (commercial and industrial settlement area)
- optional areas according to the regional plan revision (general residential areas with commercial orientation)
- transformation areas in the city centre

Roadways and railways
- regional transport/S-Bahn
- city railway
- stations for long-distance traffic
- railway for goods transport
- highway
- main axes

Network coverage
- yet no giga-bit-capable network ("grey spots")

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- qualification and re-saturation of industrial areas
- qualification and re-developing of commercial areas
- search space for other production and service locations
- transformation to innovative and diverse districts with focus on habitability
- transformation to innovative and diverse districts with focus on service, production and creative industries
- qualification of the development corridor on the right bank of the Rhine for commercial and production

- possible development areas for trade, service, commercial and urban life
- expansion and evaluation by urban development of service centres as locations for trade, service, commerce and creative industries
- re-designation of service centres as locations for trade, service, commerce and creative industries

- promotion of intermunicipal cooperation (industrial and commercial)
- development and expansion of scientific locations
- development and expansion of spaces for innovation and start-ups
- expansion of giga-bit supply
Society, culture and education: Reinforcement of the infrastructure for equal opportunities and participation

PRINCIPLES

Urban areas
- diverse use: residential/service/trade
- commercial/industry
- service centres in accordance with the retail trade and centre concept
- green system
- water areas

Roadways and railways
- regional transport/S-Bahn
- city railway
- stations for long-distance traffic
- highway

Development areas
- potential for residential construction including diverse use
- reserved areas according to the regional plan (general residential areas)
- optional spaces according to the regional plan revision (general residential areas)
- transformation areas in the city centre
- large residential areas

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- reinforcement and development of social, cultural and/or education facilities in existing residential areas
- expansion and reinforcement of health, science and research clusters
- protection and maintenance of existing socio-cultural offers and locations of creative industries
- development of residential areas linked to a needs-based development of social cultural and/or educational facilities
- expansion of educational and social infrastructure
- further development of the programme “Lebenswertes Viertel” (i.e., small city parts which are congruent)
- benefiting from the appeal of adjacent urban developments for social environments
- expansion and evaluation of service centres by the urban development, development and reinforcement of meeting places and designing of public space
- re-designation of service centres
- structural, functional and infrastructure upgrading of large residential areas and their surroundings
- application and expansion of social conservation statutes (only in designated areas)
Urban planning perspectives

Mobility: Expansion of the public transport system and connection points of all means of transport

**PRINCIPLES**

**Urban areas**
- diverse use: residential/service/trade
- commercial/industry
- green system
- water areas

**Development areas**
- potential for residential construction including diverse use
- reserved areas according to the regional plan (general residential areas)
- optional spaces according to the regional plan revision (general residential areas)
- potential area for commercial and industrial area provision concept
- reserved area according to the regional plan (commercial and industrial settlement areas)
- optional spaces according to the regional plan revision (commercial and industrial settlement areas)

**Roadways and railways**
- regional transport/S-Bahn
- partial track being planned for regional transport/S-Bahn
- expansion of regional S-Bahn (track extension and timing)
- establishment of new stations
- reinforcement of double train station RB/ÖBB
- city rail
- expansion and re-construction of city rail (implementation of the road map of the local public transport)
- capacity expansion of existing routes (implementation of road map of the local public transport)
- highway network
- ferry boats

**Interregional connection**
- airport

**STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS**

- Implementation of new local public transport system facilities as assumption for further development of residential areas
- Improvement of S-Bahn and rail station connections establishment
- Expansion or optimisation of transfer points between motorised individual transport/local public transport system
- Regio-Hub, connection to rail transport
- Realisation of the southern section of the S-Bahn ring
- Alternative search space for the closure of the S-Bahn ring
- Measures for significant reduction of motorised individual transport
- Expansion of the transport infrastructure along the Rhine (e.g., waterbus or repaving)
- Safeguarding and development of ferry connections
- Re-construction of pedestrian and cyclist bridges
- Strengthening and further expansion of cycle roads
- Long-term transformation of road spaces for the development of new urban spaces
- Search space: expansion of Highway A553 (Rheinbrücke project)
- Strategic expansion of roads

Original scale 1:50,000 @ DIN A1
Target map of 06/2020
Urban planning perspectives

Green system and climate: Safeguarding and qualification of green systems and preparedness for climate change

PRINCIPLES

Urban areas

- diverse use: residential/service?
- commercial/industry

Roadways and railways

- regional transport/S-Bahn
- city rail
- highway network

Aviation noise

- aviation noise area with >55 dBA on right

Development areas

- potential for residential construction including diverse use
- reserved areas according to the regional plan (general residential areas)
- optional spaces according to the regional plan revision (general residential areas)
- potential for commercial and industry (commercial area provision concept)
- reserved areas according to the regional plan (commercial and industrial settlement areas)
- optional spaces according to the regional plan revision (commercial and industrial settlement areas)

Urban climate

- heat-stressed residential areas (prognosis 2050)

Urban green structures

- green system
- regional forests
- large connected agricultural areas
- water bodies
- areas belonging to the minimum protection category

Flood protection

- legal flood zones
- retention areas

STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

- qualification of green infrastructure
- completion of green belt and connection of the green infrastructure
- completion of the green system on the right bank of the Rhine by reinforcement of green stepping stones
- reinforcement of the RegioGrün-connections
- integration of the green infrastructure and the development of residential areas...

...and establishment of residential boundaries against the green belt
...and establishment of residential boundaries against the landscape areas

- protection of regionally significant forests
- fostering sustainable agriculture
- development only after taking the special ecological functions into consideration

Improvement of the urban climate

- preservation and protection of fresh air corridors
- qualification of urban space on the banks of the Rhine
- noise reduction on roads and rails with increased load in residential areas

Original scale 1:50,000 @ DIN A1
Target map of 06/2020
The spatial model compiles the central spatial elements of the urban strategy "The perspectives of Cologne 2030+" in a single image. It describes the future strategic direction of Cologne's urban development; it combines and simplifies spatial statements, and highlights the spaces to be observed closely in the years ahead.

The spatial model is based on the categorisation of residential areas and districts. A recommendation is made for every shelf number, which must be understood as a superior development direction. Apart from this, larger interrelated potentials for the development of residential areas in the context of the city as well as the most important arterial roads, are depicted. The spatial model also represents the mapping of the green system in the urban space and its regional connection. Its important statements are explained in detail in the following.

Further development of the city
To enhance the attractiveness of the metropolis Cologne for its residents and guests, special attention must be paid to the centre of the city. In this context, it is particularly important to further optimise the claims on use of the space in order to prevent an overload on transport hubs, and to utilise the renovation of residential structures of the post-war period for a qualitative development of the city centre of Cologne.

Safeguard dense and diverse residential areas and develop them further
Dense and urban districts such as e.g., Lindenthal, Südstadt, Mülheim or Nippes represent the remarkable diversity of Cologne, and are of special significance for the entire city. Their qualities and peculiarities must be retained and enhanced with great care. It must be particularly ensured that the development pressure does not further increase on these areas.

Re-densify diverse residential areas and intensify their use diversity
The relatively dense and diverse residential areas between the inner and the outer green belts are partially in a phase of transition, whereby the relationship between work, production and living must be re-examined. The proclaimed goal, in this context, is the maintenance and promotion of the remarkable use diversity and an appropriate re-densification of the districts. This is how Cologne will create greater urban opportunities for living and working.

Connect suburban residential areas to the local public transport system, diversify and densify appropriately
Outside the outer green belt, residential areas are largely characterised by low constructional density and homogenous, less diverse uses. In the sense of a careful handling of the resource "space", a density appropriate for the growing urban structures must be developed in order to enable an economically viable connection with the local public transport system. In addition to this, an adequate and need-oriented provision of social, cultural, commercial and educational institutions must be planned right from the beginning.

Re-densify and qualify industrial areas
With regard to the well-connected industrial areas in the city, it is vital to reinforce their sites and develop them further by intensifying their use. To do this, solutions for re-densification as well as sustainable logistics must be developed. The integration of industrial areas in the fabric of the city requires appropriate transitional uses and buffer zones for sensible uses.

Carry out profiling and re-densification of commercial areas
The numerous commercial areas can gain significance by targeted profiling. Space potentials for future economic development will thus be established via commercial re-densifications. The qualification and embedding of these areas in the overall urban context will be supported by a better development of the local public transport system, design of the public space and supplementation via commercial and cultural facilities.

Complete the green belt and expand the regional green network
The green system of the inner city has always been the backbone of the city. Its completion and expansion in the region protects the existing open space qualities, supports the city’s microclimate and provides spaces required for recreation and sport, preservation of biodiversity and agricultural production.
Spatial model

- further development of the city centre
- protection and development of dense and diverse residential areas
- larger, coherent development of residential areas in the city centre
- re-densification of diverse residential areas and intensification of diverse use
- connection of suburban residential areas to the local public transport system, appropriate diversification and re-densification
- large, connected residential areas in the outer city
- re-densification and qualification of industrial areas
- profiling and re-densification of the commercial area
- completion of green belt and expansion of the regional green network

Future spaces

With the seven future spaces – city center, the S-Bahn ring, the East-West axis, the development corridor on the right bank of the Rhine, the Rhine, the north Cologne/Kreuzfeld and the South of Porz, the model depicts the sub-spaces that the city of Cologne will prioritise. In the future spaces selected, several strategically important developments are consolidated, on account of which an integrated and spatially coherent planning is required, in order to execute them in the context of the overall goals of the city.
The ten recommended actions describe the most important strategic thrusts for the future urban development of Cologne, and demonstrate how the formulated goals can be achieved. These actions evolve equally from the framework of goals of the 360-degree perspective as well as the knowledge gained from the urban space perspective, and thus form a link between both the approaches. Their sequence and numbering do not represent any prioritisation.

1. Climate-friendly living
The adopted climate neutrality 2035 requires active action and the determined implementation of the strategy “Cologne climate neutral 2035”. Concrete measures must bring about the reduction of CO₂ in all sectors. At the same time, Cologne must adapt to the consequences of climate change in order to protect people, animals and nature from the consequences of the already noticeable and predicted global warming.

2. Inner values
The existing land potential must be utilised sustainably in order to reduce the use of land. To do this, one must rely on the land policies in use; the existing land allocation instruments must be applied and extended by Cologne-specific solutions. This must be accompanied by an increase in structural densities and the development of a digital, strategic land management.

3. The diversity of Cologne
The construction of affordable housing must increase significantly. For this purpose, “the diversity of Cologne” must be established as a new culture for construction with a strong focus on densification and diverse use. This includes social infrastructures, care services, culture and education as well as attractive, open spaces and employment opportunities.

4. Open space
In the future, the city’s open spaces must be treated as a part of a system of multifunctional spaces for recreation, stay, climate adaptation, environment protection and biodiversity as well as for food production. A coordination of various functions and claims will be necessary to resolve conflicts of interests and make use of the opportunities to develop new open spaces.

5. Transport revolution
A consistent effort must be made to revolutionise transportation, and sustainable mobility solutions as well as a significant reduction in motorised private transport must be primarily promoted thereby. The re-evaluation and reorganisation of the road space is an integral part of the transport revolution.

6. Support for economic growth
Commercial, service, creative and industrial spaces must be developed, qualified and densified heterogeneously, and extended with supporting functions. The integration of urban production in the districts close to the city centre must be preserved and expanded further.

7. Priority to education
As education holds the key for creating opportunities, societal cohesion, economic participation as well as environmental and climate protection, it must be encouraged. To do this, new modes of stimulating exchanges in the fields of science, economy, culture and society are paramount.

8. City life
Participation, solidarity and equal opportunities must be championed, in order to create a tolerant climate within a diverse urban society and to strengthen the small city parts (Veedel) of Cologne as cohabitation neighbourhoods.

9. Smart city
The digital infrastructure must be developed further and employed for the development of smart and digital offers. This would increase the efficiency of infrastructures, urban services and collaboration of the administration, economy, science and urban population. The next step comprises an integration of digital applications in real labs.

10. RegioCoop
The intercommunal cooperation with neighbouring districts and states must be intensified, and binding formats and structures of cooperation must be agreed upon. This comprises clearing the way for new models of division of responsibilities and promotion of integrated regional development.

Outlook
The recommended actions described here in brief are implied as suggestions. Along the course, they should be developed further, and clear-cut tasks, action steps and key projects should be formulated.
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